

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	09/847,771	RAINSBERGER ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Michael B. Holmes	2121	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to July 12, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20, 22-25 and 28-47.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 May 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/847,771.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance   |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |



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**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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**Examiner's Detailed Office Action**

1. Claims 1-20, 22-25, & 28-47 are allowed.
2. Claims 21, 26, & 27 have been canceled.

**REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

3. The following is an Examiner's statement for reasons for allowance:

The closest prior art *Bowman-Amuah* (USPN 6,697,824 B1) & *Plutowski* (USPN 6,473,851 B1) does not teach or render obvious applicant's claimed invention.

4. With regards to claim 1, *Bowman-Amuah* & *Plutowski* does not disclose “... *a defined interface for accessing each of the recommendation systems in said set of recommendation systems to permit a one of the recommendation systems to be invoked from an action component in a rule in the set of rules in the rule system.*”

5. With regards to claim 13, *Bowman-Amuah* & *Plutowski* does not disclose “... *a defined interface for accessing each of the empirical recommendation systems in said set of empirical*

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*recommendation systems to permit a one of the empirical recommendation systems to be invoked from an action component in a rule in the set of rules in the rule system.”*

6. With regards to claim 22, *Bowman-Amuah & Plutowski* does not disclose “ ... *defining an interface to permit the empirical recommendation systems in said set of empirical recommendation systems to be called from the rule system, defining a set of rules in the rule system, selected rules in the set of rules comprising calls using the interface to the empirical recommendation systems .”*

7. With regards to claim 28, *Bowman-Amuah & Plutowski* does not disclose “ ... *defining an interface for accessing each recommendation system in a set of recommendation systems to permit at least one recommendation system from the set of recommendation systems to be invoked from an action component in a rule in the set of rules in the rule system.”*

8. With regards to claim 40, *Bowman-Amuah & Plutowski* does not disclose “ ... *defining an interface for accessing each empirical recommendation system in a set of empirical recommendation systems to permit at least one empirical recommendation system from the set of empirical recommendation systems to be invoked from an action component in a rule in the set of rules in the rule system.”*

### Correspondence Information

9. Any inquires concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Michael B. Holmes** who may be reached via telephone at **(571) 272-3686**. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday between 7:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. est.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the **Examiner's**  
**Supervisor, Anthony Knight**, may be reached at **(571) 272-3687**.

***Michael B. Holmes***  
Patent Examiner  
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Anthony Knight  
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